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THE TALL TALE OF TRUMP TOWER

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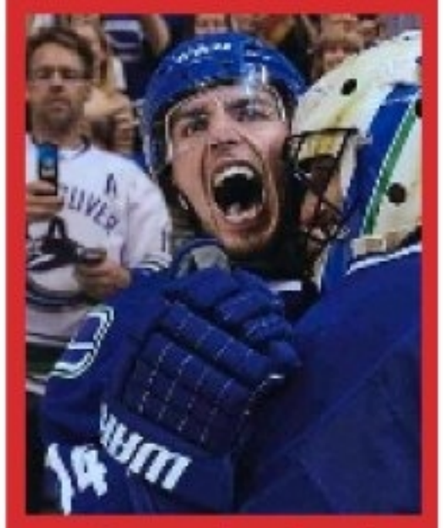
SO LONG, DRAGON SLAYER



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4,000 people now homeless in Greater Vancouver metroNEWS

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Ikea looking to give its customers a dose of virtual reality. **Business**

‘Moving in the wrong direction’

HOUSING

With over 70 tent cities, local politicians call for action

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Marisa Abraham sets up her tent in Thornton Park. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

The number of homeless people in Metro Vancouver rose 44 per cent in just three years, according to estimates released ahead of an official count of the region’s homeless population.

Metro Vancouver estimates that 4,000 residents in the region are now homeless, compared to the 2,777 counted in 2014. The regional district says the number of homeless residents has gone up 26 per cent every year since 2011.

In the midst of a real estate boom that has also impacted rental rates, the region now also has the distinction of hosting more than 70 homeless tent camps.

The regional district estimates that every week, five people lose their housing and fall into homelessness.

“This is a crisis that is moving in the wrong direction,” said Nicole Read, mayor of Maple Ridge, a municipality that has struggled to permanently house a group of former tent city residents because of community opposition to sites for new transitional housing.

“We have no plan here in the province of British Columbia to address homelessness, and local governments are scrambling to do their best with no resources, no funding to be able to deal with the citizens on their streets who need care and need attention and need places to live.”

Mayor Gregor Robertson, who was first elected mayor in 2008 and campaigned at that time with a promise to end street homelessness, laid the blame for the problem specifically at the feet of current B.C. Premier Christy Clark.

“We had an immediate partnership with the B.C. government, we had community partners and we were very successful for three years in bringing the street homelessness population down from over 800 to under 150,” said Robertson of the period between 2008 and 2011.

“In 2011 things turned and Christy Clark became premier. There was no commitment to solving homelessness here in the province. There was very little follow through action in accelerating the pace to get housing built to address homelessness.”

Homelessness has risen nine per cent every year since 2002, according to Metro Vancouver, but the rate of growth picked up after 2011, rising 26 per cent a year between 2011 and 2016.

Metro Vancouver mayors are calling on the provincial government to work with the federal government, municipalities and community groups to create an action plan to deal with homelessness, a coordinated approach they say has so far been non-existent.

B.C. is currently the only province without a poverty reduction plan.

Metro Vancouver’s report also calls for a suite of measures to prevent homelessness, including the improvement and expansion of home care for those with chronic illness, mental illness and addictions; the establishment of supported living programs for youth aging out of foster care; an increase in the supply of rental housing for residents who make less than $30,000 a year; and supports to help former prison inmates find housing.

> **“Local governments are scrambling to do their best with no resources ...**
> Nicole Read

Increasing social assistance rates, which currently allow just $375 a month for housing and have been frozen for 11 years, is also a key recommendation, as is eliminating the BC Housing waitlist. Many people on the waitlist say they have been waiting years to get housing.

Rich Coleman, B.C.’s responsible minister for housing, said he was “flabbergasted” by Robertson’s comments.

He said his government has made “the most investments made in Canada on any file like this,” including $375 million on affordable housing and rent supplements in Metro Vancouver. He called on municipalities to use their land zoning powers to protect existing rental and build new, higher-density rental housing.

Coleman added the federal government could provide tax incentives and low-cost financing to build rental and non-profit housing.

Coleman has in the past said that the BC Housing waitlist is not a good measure of how many people need housing in the province, since many people on the list are already housed and are asking for transfers within the housing system. In response to the Metro Vancouver report, he said that homelessness numbers are rising in part because more people are coming to B.C. from provinces like Alberta to look for work.

“We were bending the curve (of homeless numbers) downward but then the economy in Alberta changed dramatically,” Coleman said.

However, homeless counts conducted by Metro Vancouver in 2014 and the City of Vancouver in 2016 found that the majority of respondents had lived in the municipality where they were interviewed for at least five years.

Metro Vancouver will conduct its regional homeless count on March 7 and 8, with results expected to be released by April 4. The federal government will be releasing a National Housing Strategy this spring.

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Trump firm tweets alt-facts

TOWER OPENING

Claim of being first building opened in years invites ridicule

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

President Donald Trump's sons may have taken over the reins of his international company following his U.S. election win, amid ongoing concerns about potential conflicts of interest.

But that didn't stop The Trump Organization, which the president still owns but doesn't manage, from apparently inheriting its namesake's appreciation for "alternative facts."

On Monday, a day before Trump International Hotel and Tower officially opens in Vancouver with the president's sons Donald Jr. and Eric Trump attending, the company issued an outright falsehood on Twitter.

"Tomorrow marks the official grand opening of @TrumpVancouver," the 6:25 a.m. tweet stated. "The 69-story tower will be the first property to open in the city in over 6 yrs."

The inaccuracy of that claim will be obvious to any Vancouverite who has watched construction sites and cranes spring up in almost every corner of the city in recent years, many projects quickly reaching completion and opening to residents amid a real-estate boom.

The 69-storey Trump tower in Vancouver opens today. JEN ST. DENIS/METRO FILE

The phrase "alternative facts" was coined by Trump spokesperson Kellyanne Conway in a television interview, when confronted on lies told by her and the White House about the size of the president's inauguration crowd.

The Georgia Street tower is set to open Tuesday, and already two separate protests have been announced to oppose the U.S. president and hotelier.

Trump tower in Vancouver, developed by Holborn Group, has drawn criticism from local politicians, one of whom called it a "beacon of intolerance" because of its namesake's move to ban visitors from Muslim-majority countries from entering the U.S., remarks labelling Mexicans "rapists," opposition to transgender-inclusive bathrooms, accusations of sexual assault and sexual harassment, official investigations into links between the Trump campaign and Russian government spies and degrading comments to women, among other complaints.

Trump Organization
Follow
Tomorrow marks the official grand opening of @TrumpVancouver The 69-story tower will be the first property to open in the city in over 6 yrs
TRUMP

A tweet from The Trump Organization on Monday. TWITTER

In January, the tower's Google reviews page was showered with mocking, sarcastic user-submitted comments — most of them mocking the Trump brand by using the president-elect's own insults and idioms.

"Unpresidented care for guests," quipped one commenter, referencing Trump's Dec. 17 tweet in which he misspelled "unprecedented."

Another reviewer labelled his family brand "a flaming pile of garbage," and another complained sarcastically that the hotel only accepted Russian currency.

In November, pranksters briefly renamed the Trump hotels in Vancouver and Manhattan to "Dump Tower" on Google Maps. The Internet giant quickly apologized for the incident.

FACT-CHECK

The Trump Organization claims this is the 'first' building opened in more than six years. Here is just a sampling of the towers and 20-floor or more high-rises built in that time.

- **2016:** Telus Gardens Residences (46 floors), Marine Gateway Residential Tower (46)
- **2015:** MNP Tower (36), MC2 South Tower (31), 745 Thurlow Street (23)
- **2014:** Salt (33), Maddox (32), Opsal (24)
- **2013:** The Mark (47), The Rolston (23), 2300 Kingsway (23)
- **2012:** Hotel Georgia Private Residences (48), Three Harbour Green (33), Cosmo (23)
- **2011:** Capitol Residences (43), Patina (42), Jameson House (38)

SOURCE: EMPORIS

Multiple protests to greet opening

It's probably no surprise to anyone that a landmark named after President Donald Trump has attracted protest.

In fact, at time of publication there were already two demonstrations planned throughout Tuesday.

Trump Welcome Party

Organized by Occupy Vancouver, the main event starts at 10 a.m., billed as "a hearty westcoast (sic) welcome to the spawn of 'the Donald' on the official opening of their misogynist, racist, fascist, 1% hotel." (1161 West Georgia St.)

Speakers and DJs

The welcome party continues with speeches and performances kicking off at 3 p.m. in front of the hotel.

Resist 4 Peace March

A protest march at 4 p.m. is being planned separately and won't converge upon the Trump International Hotel and Tower at all — but will instead walk from Jack Poole Plaza to the U.S. Consulate (1075 West Pender St.) and back.

Organizers billed it as "intended to be peaceful," but the U.S. Consulate itself issued a warning to its citizens about the events: "Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations."

DAVID P. BALL / METRO

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The pharmacy is seen at the on-demand addictions treatment centre in Vancouver's downtown eastside on Monday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

On-demand clinic tackles drug crisis

OPIOIDS

Treatment centre expects 600 patients in the first year

On-demand addiction treatment is now available in the Vancouver neighbourhood hardest-hit by the ongoing opioid overdose crisis.

The Downtown Eastside Connections clinic, unveiled Monday, is expected to receive 600 patients a year who want help to stop using illicit drugs.

Dr. Ron Joe with Vancouver Coastal Health said the new clinic is unique because clients can walk in whenever they decide they're ready for help.

Many other programs require people to be off drugs before they begin treatment, he said.

"In my experience there is a small window of opportunity when people who are untreated in their addiction are open to obtaining treatment, and this is what this site is about," Joe said.

B.C. Health Minister Terry Lake said the program is designed to treat addiction as a health condition, relying on evidence-based methods including opioid replacement therapy and counselling services.

On-site social workers, community workers and peer support will be available to address non-medical issues linked with substance abuse seven days a week.

"We know we need to approach this type of complex issue in a different way, it's not like fixing a broken leg," Lake said. "It requires culturally appropriate, culturally safe approaches, but it also requires compassion and people coming to the Connections clinic here will find all of that."

Joe said patients will be assessed and receive their first dose of opioid replacements like suboxone or methadone within two hours of checking in.

Vancouver Coastal Health said in a statement that both drug therapies, which are taken orally, have an 80 per cent success rate.

Injectable drug therapies will not be available because Connections does not have the appropriate facilities.

The clinic's opening was five years in the making, a frustration for those living in the centre of the overdose crisis, which killed more than 900 people across B.C. last year.

Rob Morgan, a former heroin and cocaine user, said people have been dying daily without any other treatment options.

"I'm just happy this is opening right now because I know people that have been waiting for Connections to open so they can come in and get off their addiction," said Morgan, who is now a peer adviser for the clinic.

Located in the same building as the Hope to Health Research Centre, Connections will also work with the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS on addictions research.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **We need to approach this type of complex issue in a different way.**
> Terry Lake

JUSTICE SYSTEM

Assault charge stayed against northern B.C. politician Pimm

An assault charge against a member of the B.C. legislature has been stayed, the province's Criminal Justice Branch said Monday.

A spokesman for the branch says Pat Pimm has agreed to a peace bond for a period of eight months that prohibits him from contacting the complainant.

Dan McLaughlin says in an email that the complainant and investigators were consulted.

"The special prosecutor determined, in the independent exercise of his prosecutorial discretion, that the resolution was appropriate and fair and not contrary to the public interest," he says.

Pimm, who represents Peace River North in the legislature, was charged with assault in September, a month after he said unspecified allegations had been made against him and a special prosecutor had been appointed.

He had previously announced he would not seek re-election in May. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Animal legislation changed

WELFARE

Irresponsible breeders targeted by lawmakers

Agriculture Minister Norm Letnick held a Yorkshire Terrier named Dijon on Monday just before he announced changes to animal welfare legislation in British Columbia that would establish a regulatory or licensing system for dog and cat breeders.

Letnick said the amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act are part of the government's efforts to develop a system that ensures puppies and kittens are treated with care and respect.

"We will develop a system that is supported by responsible breeders in British Columbia and targets ones that are not," he said Monday at a news conference. "The government expects all British Columbians to treat their animals with care and respect, including commercial dog and cat breeders."

The amendments allow for the establishment of an external regulatory agency that includes inspectors who would be responsible for enforcing standards of care for breeders.

Liberal MLA Jane Thornthwaite, holding Burger, a Jack Russell terrier puppy, speaks at the announcement of B.C.'s plans to strengthen its animal welfare law, at the provincial legislature in Victoria on Monday. DIRK MEISSNER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Craig Daniell, executive director of the provincial SPCA, said the organization investigates up to 200 animal cruelty cases involving breeders annually, and many of the animals do not survive the mistreatment they suffer.

He said tighter regulations on dog and cat breeders will result in better treatment of the animals and fewer deaths.

> **The outcome of this work is sometimes a sad one.**
> Craig Daniell

"The outcome of this work is sometimes a sad one," he said. "But this really doesn't have to be the case. With a proactive registration and inspection system, we can intervene and identify these cases in an early stage, relieving animals in distress before it even starts."

The maximum penalty for causing distress to an animal is a fine of $75,000 and up to two years in jail.

Jane Thornthwaite, a Liberal member of the legislature for North Vancouver-Seymour, said the amended legislation stems from a private member's bill she introduced in 2013 to shut down breeding mills.

"Today's announcement is all about speaking up for those who can't speak for themselves," said Thornthwaite, holding a black and white Jack Russell terrier named Burger. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATURAL GAS

Province approves pipeline

The provincial government has approved the proposed expansion of a natural gas pipeline in northeastern British Columbia.

The province says it has issued an environmental assessment certificate for TransCanada's Towerbirch expansion project, which carries natural gas from B.C. across North America.

The line stretches 87 kilometres from near Dawson Creek and into northern Alberta.

TransCanada says in a statement that pipelines in the area currently don't have enough capacity to handle growing production.

The province has set out 17 conditions for the project's approval, including the creation of a heritage management plan and the company's participation in efforts to monitor and assess the effects of the project.

The federal government is scheduled to make a decision by April 6. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ellard allowed escorted absences

CRIME

But take more responsibility for Reena Virk murder, parole board urges

Kelly Ellard and her father Lawrence leave the Vancouver courthouse on March 30, 2000. **The convicted killer has been allowed temporary escorted absences from prison.**
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Convicted killer Kelly Ellard has been granted temporary escorted absences from prison to attend doctor's appointments and parenting programs for her baby.

Ellard has spent about 15 years in prison after she was convicted of second-degree murder in the 1997 beating and drowning death of 14-year-old Reena Virk at the Gorge waterway near Victoria.

Ellard, who was 15 at the time of the crime, was tried three times and has recently taken more responsibility for her part in the murder, saying that she rolled Virk's unconscious body into the water.

However, her trials heard that Ellard held Virk's head under the water, and parole board member Alex Dantzer said Monday he would like her to take more responsibility for the crime.

"It would be hard to exaggerate the brutality of that index offence," said Dantzer in delivering the two-member panel's decision. "It's also disturbing in the view of the board that you continue to minimize it."

But Dantzer said her behaviour in prison has improved over the past 20 months. He also noted that she has not had a violent incident in prison in over seven years.

The parole board's decision means Ellard will be allowed up to four escorted absences a month for up to four hours over a three-month period.

Ellard made the same request last month, saying she wanted to leave a prison in Abbotsford to attend medical appointments and parenting programs following the birth of her child. The two-member parole board panel was split and the request was denied.

The parole board determines whether a prisoner should be allowed to have temporary escorted absences by examining their risk to reoffend, their behaviour in prison and whether the absences are desirable.

Ellard's parole officer supported her request for absences, saying she has shown positive behaviour over the past 18 months and has been seeing a trauma counsellor.

On Monday, Ellard told a similar version of the crime to the one she first told publicly nearly a year ago at another parole board hearing.

After participating in the beating of Virk with a group of other teenagers, she and her co-accused, Warren Glowatski, followed Virk to ensure she didn't report what had happened, she said.

She found Virk unconscious and covered in blood near the edge of the water, she said, and tried to shake her awake.

"I panicked at this point," she said.

> **It would be hard to exaggerate the brutality of that index offence.**
> Parole board member Alex Dantzer

Ellard said Glowatski suggested flagging down a car for help, but she refused. Instead, she said she "rolled" Virk's body into the water and walked away.

Dantzer asked Ellard whether Virk would be alive today if not for her actions.

"She would be," Ellard said.

Dantzer pressed her on whether she was minimizing her responsibility for the crime. Ellard replied that she didn't intend to minimize her actions but can only describe her own recollection.

"I'm responsible for what I did," she said.

Ellard said she has come to understand the impacts of her actions on others and how to deal with her anxiety, which she said is triggered by the intense media attention to her case.

During her last hearing, Ellard teared up while talking about how her baby had calmed her down.

There were fewer tears on Monday, but Ellard told the panel she didn't get pregnant to help her case with the parole board.

She said she was in "shock" and "scared" when she found out she was pregnant, but then she realized that she needed to make more responsible decisions for the sake of her child.

"I'm not in any way using this child to get anything," she said.

Ellard has had escorted temporary absences, the panel heard. Before the former federal Conservative government changed the law, offenders could be granted absences by the warden without the parole board's involvement.

Parole board spokesman Patrick Storey said an offender's conduct on escorted temporary absences is taken into account when an application is made for day parole.

Ellard is eligible to reapply for day parole in May.

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Manulife lands itself in hot water

FINANCE

Bank fined $1.2 million by laundering watchdog

It took 10 months of intense media scrutiny and public outrage before Canadians learned Manulife Bank was the mysterious financial institution behind a $1.2 million fine for money-laundering violations.

The same day Manulife's identity was kept secret, a handful of much smaller companies — facing much smaller fines — were publicly named and shamed by FINTRAC, the country's money-laundering and terrorist funding watchdog. That confusing double standard has now triggered a review of FINTRAC's disclosure policy amid a Torstar/National Observer investigation.

"In exercising my discretion to withhold the name of the bank, I understand that it may not have met public expectations in relation to openness and transparency," wrote Gérald Cossette, FINTRAC director, in a statement.

The carefully-worded statement still makes no reference to the bank at the centre of the controversy — an expression of the agency's uneven transparency model since its birth in 2008.

Over the past eight years, FINTRAC has named 40 companies for violating the law while keeping secret another 55.

As part of the Torstar/National Observer investigation over the past two months, reporters attempted to identify the bank by surveying all 32 Schedule I banks in Canada, asking them to clearly state whether they were the bank involved.

While almost all the banks responded unequivocally, Manulife wrote last Wednesday: "We do not comment on any matters regarding our regulators, whether they are rumour, speculation or fact."

On Monday, Manulife issued a public statement confirming it was the mystery bank in question.

Over the last three months, Torstar and the National Observer have published exclusive details about the offences behind the fine. Among those findings:

- Manulife failed to report one suspicious transaction to Fintrac — labelled a "very serious" violation — that experts say undermines Canada's system to detect financial crimes and trace dirty money.
- The bank also failed to report 1,174 outgoing international electronic transfers of $10,000 or more, 45 deposits of $10,000 or more in cash and four incoming international electronic transfers of $10,000 or more.
- Documents show Manulife's fine was for five different types of violations of anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing law.
- Manulife was also fined for failing to "develop and apply compliance policies and procedures." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CALIFORNIA
PLANE CRASHES INTO HOMES
Four people died and two were injured when a small plane carrying a family returning from a cheerleading competition crashed into two homes and sparked a major fire Monday in Riverside on Monday.
WATCHARA PHOMICINDA/THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#WOMENONBOARDS

Board diversity is a fed duty: NDP

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

As the NDP calls for tougher rules to create more diversity on Canadian boards, a private think-tank warns that forcing gender parity could do more harm than good.

Windsor NDP MP Brian Masse suggested the government go further on its gender diversity bill, C-25, calling for a minimum number of women on the boards of Canadian corporations.

The current version of C-25, introduced by the Liberal government, requires corporations work toward gender diversity and disclose the current make-up of their boards.

Data from 2016 shows about 21.6 per cent of board seats in Canada are filled by women.

"The world is moving quite quickly on this and Canada is a laggard to begin with," said Masse.

Masse said he believes that, as a starting point, corporations should be required to have at least 30 per cent of their board director seats occupied by women.

"Canada would only join the ranks of more progressive countries on this."

But Andrea Mrozek, program director with the think tank Cardus, suggested mandatory quotas could actually make things more difficult for women on boards.

"It creates a negative work environment whereby people question how a very qualified woman got into management in the first place," she said.

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'Nobody from Hollywood' will fly around the moon

SPACE

One giant leap for tourism in 2018, SpaceX promises

SpaceX Dragon capsule sits aboard a ship on Feb. 10, 2015 in the Pacific Ocean west of Mexico's Baja Peninsula after returning from the International Space Station, carrying about 3,700 pounds of cargo for NASA **Inset:** Elon Musk. SPACEX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SpaceX said Monday it will fly two people to the moon next year, a feat not attempted since NASA's Apollo heyday close to half a century ago.

Tech billionaire Elon Musk — the company's founder and chief executive officer — announced the surprising news barely a week after launching his first rocket from NASA's legendary moon pad.

Two people who know one another approached the company about sending them on a weeklong flight just beyond the moon, according to Musk. He won't identify the pair or the price tag. They've already paid a "significant" deposit and are "very serious" about it, he noted.

"Fly me to the moon ... Ok," Musk said in a light-hearted tweet following the news conference.

Musk said SpaceX is on track to launch astronauts to the International Space Station for NASA in mid-2018. This moon mission would follow about six months later, by the end of the year under the current schedule, using a Dragon crew capsule and a Falcon heavy rocket launched from NASA's former moon pad in Florida.

If all goes as planned, it could happen close to the 50th anniversary of NASA's first manned flight to the moon, on Apollo 8.

The SpaceX moonshot is designed to be autonomous — unless something goes wrong, Musk said.

"I think they are entering this with their eyes open, knowing that there is some risk here," Musk told reporters in the telephone conference, a day after teasing via Twitter that an announcement of some sort was forthcoming.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERMANY

Anti-migrant crimes are 'alarmingly high'

Migrants and their homes in Germany faced more than 3,500 attacks in 2016, a number that is "alarmingly high and cause for concern," a German official said Monday, while adding that the crimes are being aggressively prosecuted and the numbers of such attacks are now falling.

Most of the attacks were crimes like vandalism to asylum-seeker homes — including far-right graffiti, threats and slander — but the report also included more serious attacks like arson, bodily harm and attempted murder. It was compiled by the Interior Ministry with information from Germany's 16 states in response to a question in Parliament by the Left party.

"There was a very wide spectrum of crimes ... every one is to be condemned," said Interior Ministry spokesman Johannes Dimroth.

The attacks led to 560 people being injured, including 43 children. Overall, 2,343 suspects were identified and investigated, according to the new report.

Comparison figures for previous years haven't been compiled but Dimroth said after 2016 the "trend is downward ... which gives us a little bit of hope."

Germany took in 890,000 asylum-seekers in 2015, and the influx caused a backlash and a rise in anti-immigrant sentiment. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women from Afghanistan, who preferred not to show their faces to the camera, attend a class offering literacy and basic computer knowledge in Berlin, Germany. GETTY IMAGES

POLITICS

Trump shifts presidential focus

President Donald Trump's first address to Congress gives him a welcome opportunity to refocus his young administration on the core economic issues that helped him get elected — and, his allies hope, to move beyond the distractions and self-inflicted wounds that have roiled his White House.

Trump's advisers say he will use his prime-time speech Tuesday to declare early progress on his campaign promises, including kick-starting construction of his proposed southern border wall, and to map a path ahead on thorny legislative priorities, including health care and infrastructure spending.

"We spend billions in the Middle East, but we have potholes all over the country," Trump said Monday as he previewed the address during a meeting with the nation's governors. "We're going to start spending on infrastructure big."

Republicans, impatient to begin making headway on an ambitious legislative agenda, hope Trump arrives on Capitol Hill armed with specifics on replacing the "Obamacare" health law and overhauling the nation's tax system, two issues he's so far talked about in mostly general terms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ikea testing virtual reality

TECHNOLOGY

Simulator puts furniture into consumers' own homes

Ikea Canada is jumping into the virtual reality ring with the launch on Tuesday of a simulator at its Etobicoke location in Toronto that will allow customers to see themselves moving inside a version of their own, newly renovated Ikea kitchen.

"We know that virtual reality isn't widely available yet, but we know it's coming fast," said Rob Kelly, head of sales, Ikea Canada.

The technology is used in video games but is heading into new applications, including allowing people to see how a piece of furniture would look in their own home using their mobile phone.

The Etobicoke store pilot is the only one in Canada, although the concept is being tested in other markets, including a store in Belgium, one in Sweden and a booth at an order-and-pick-up location, also in Sweden.

Ceasar Varela, kitchen and dining manager at an Ikea store in Toronto, poses with the Virtual Reality Pancake Kitchen display. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The testing will run until May 21, at which time Ikea Canada will assess the findings and the potential for the technology.

"This is an exploration journey for us," said Kelly. "It's exciting, it's fun to do, but at the end of the day, what we're really interested in hearing about from customers is, does it really help?"

Lowe's was the first retailer to test a holoroom in Canada, in late 2014, according to Kyle Nel, executive director, Lowe's Innovation Labs.

"We coined the phrase holoroom," said Nel.

Since then, the technology has shrunk and customers with a Google Tango smartphone, equipped with 3D depth sensors, can take advantage of virtual and augmented reality with their phones, instead of using goggles and hand-held controllers.

"The ambition was never to have these giant, cumbersome boxes as part of the store, the goal was to learn how people use virtual reality and augmented reality in a real way inside of a working home improvement store," said Nel.

The virtual reality kitchen at Ikea offers two different experiences: One invites customers to try cooking pancakes in virtual reality to gain an understanding of work flow in a kitchen and how it can be optimized.

The second is for customers who have already been through the kitchen-planning process at Ikea and want to bring the design to life, allowing them to move in virtual reality through their plans, for example, opening cupboards, to see how everything works together.

"Will that give the consumer even more confidence that they are making the right decision? Right now it's about learning for us and it's seeing how the technology can support the business going forward," said Kelly.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LOYALTY CARDS

Rewards losing allure

The value of customer loyalty programs is under increased scrutiny by companies and users in the wake of Air Miles' recent reversal of an expiration policy.

The operator of the shopper reward program, LoyaltyOne, angered many members last year with its proposal to void unused Air Miles after five years, only to abandon that plan weeks before it was to take effect.

Last month, supermarket chain Metro said it was considering dropping Air Miles and launching its own loyalty program in its Ontario stores.

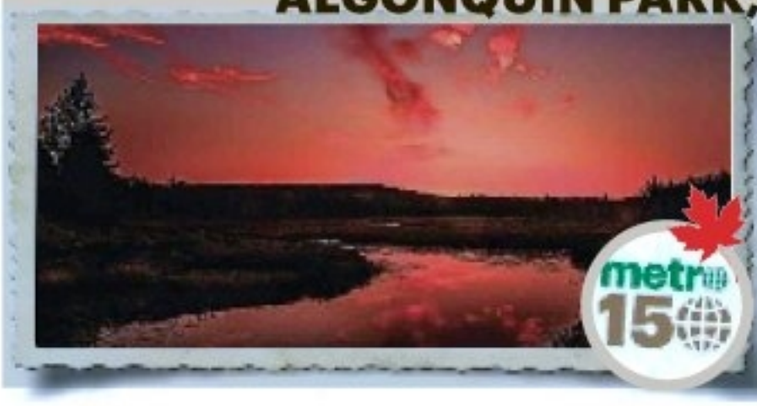
The Air Miles misstep doesn't help foster consumer trust and is a "cautionary tale" for other providers, said Sean Claessen, executive vice-president of strategy for marketing agency Bond Brand Loyalty.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

POSTCARD NO. 26

ALGONQUIN PARK, ONT



There is nothing more Canadian than a magical sunrise or sunset in Algonquin Park. I took this during the summer off the spruce bog boardwalk. Considering this beautiful wilderness is only a few hours north of the GTA, it's a great place to get away from the chaotic pace of city life.
Tim Kennedy

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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

PENNY COLLENETTE ON SANCTUARY CITIES

We must 'mind the gap' between the vision and the reality of sanctuaries

The world has a massive problem on its hands. The numbers of displaced people fleeing persecution, conflict and genocide are staggering. The UN Refugee Agency estimates "an unprecedented 65.3 million people around the world have been forced from home. Among them are nearly 21.3 million refugees. There are also 10 million stateless people who have been denied a nationality and access to basic rights."

Where can these asylum seekers find safety in an increasingly unsafe world?

Initially, we assumed that sheltered refuge would be found in North America. To that end, Canada signed the Safe Third Country Agreement in 2002 with the U.S., requiring refugee claimants (with some exceptions) request protection in the first country in which they arrive, not both.

What could go wrong? Both countries were deemed to "respect human rights and offer a high degree of protection for asylum seekers."

But increasingly, the assumption the U.S. is a safe harbour is at risk. Donald Trump has exacerbated the global situation with rumours of accelerated deportations along with threats to cut federal funding to approximately 400 American cities and counties that provide sanctuary to illegal immigrants, potentially amounting to $2.27 billion in cuts for the nation's 10 largest cities.

Clear laws, co-ordinated leadership needed, says Collenette. AP

Given this intimidating culture, it is no wonder undocumented refugees in the United States are understandably nervous and are now looking north to our country for sanctuary. Canadian cities are beginning to respond with designations of "sanctuary cities" and with requests for more resources.

Whether the numbers crossing the undefended portions of our joint border are a trickle or a flood remain to be seen. Competing visions of the future are colliding in our consciousness, in part because of politics and in part because of real confusion. The government, which is dealing with an unprecedented situation, is taking time to assess the severity of the situation.

But are city services enough? The mayor of Fredericton recently noted that because provinces have responsibility for education and health, it may be more appropriate for New Brunswick to be designated as a sanctuary province. Similarly, a project at the Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement in Toronto is studying the idea of provincial sanctuary as it researches the availability of labour markets for illegal migrants while examining municipal programs that could be "scaled" up to the provincial level.

However, before we leap to a higher sanctuary level, we must "mind the gap" between the vision and the reality of sanctuaries. For example, police forces are in a Catch-22 position as they are expected to serve everyone without question as to their papers. However, if they are aware of any illegal immigration information, they are required by law to report it to Canada Border Services. Which direction takes precedence?

Secondly, affordable housing remains a pressing issue for many cities, not to mention the challenge of homelessness. Can we build new units? If so, how quickly and which level of government provides the funds?

Successful sanctuaries, whether at the municipal or provincial level, will require clarity of laws, as well as co-ordinated leadership among officials at all levels. To avoid arguments, and possible confrontations, citizens, too, must receive good communication and education. None of this is easy. Patience, rather than heated rhetoric, will be a virtue.

Penny Collenette is an adjunct law professor and was a director in Jean Chrétien's PMO.

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Mapping exclusion on the Downtown Eastside

CITY HOLLER
Trish Kelly

A recent report on retail gentrification in the Downtown Eastside is a tough read for anyone who cares about the neighbourhood. The Carnegie Community Action Project worked with low-income residents of the Downtown Eastside and Chinatown to create a map of businesses in the area. Over 450 businesses were mapped and named either affordable and welcoming to low-income people or as contributing to gentrification.

The report includes stories from Chinese seniors who describe the alienating experience of watching a functional neighbourhood transformed into a series of fancy coffee shops and nightclubs, while passport photo places and grocery stores shutter. The report calls the 156 new retailers "Zones of Exclusion," places not all can afford or that don't offer basic services.

There's also a pair of contrasting lists in the report, one tracking all the affordable Chinese green grocers, cafés, and pubs that have closed in the neighbourhood, and the other listing new retail that has popped up in the last three years.

I think we're all clear on how condo towers and rising rents are literally pushing low-income residents out of Vancouver neighbourhoods, but the upscaling of retail is also displacing our less moneyed neighbours, one storefront at a time. For low-income residents who either can't afford what's for sale inside or can't bear the stink eye of the security guard who stands just inside the door, their own neighbourhood is increasingly off limits to them.

In discussing gentrification, emotions run high. The report itself contains more exclamation marks than you'd expect in a research document. It's understandable given the work to create the retail maps must have involved grieving for what's been lost and a great deal of fear about the future.

What will low-income seniors do if all the cheap produce shops in Chinatown close and the only groceries available are beyond their budget? On the other side of the coin, how can we expect long-term retailers to stay open, if their customer base has less and less money to spend on anything but rent?

As the report says, government policy is needed to halt gentrification. City hall could do more to incentivize retail that serves the needs of low-income residents, but what's really needed is an increase to social assistance rates, so that low-income residents get back some buying power and existing retailers stand a chance of staying afloat.

Why is it so easy for the provincial government to ignore the obvious connection between untenably low social assistance rates and economic decline?

Low social assistance rates are starving out local residents and businesses alike.

metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

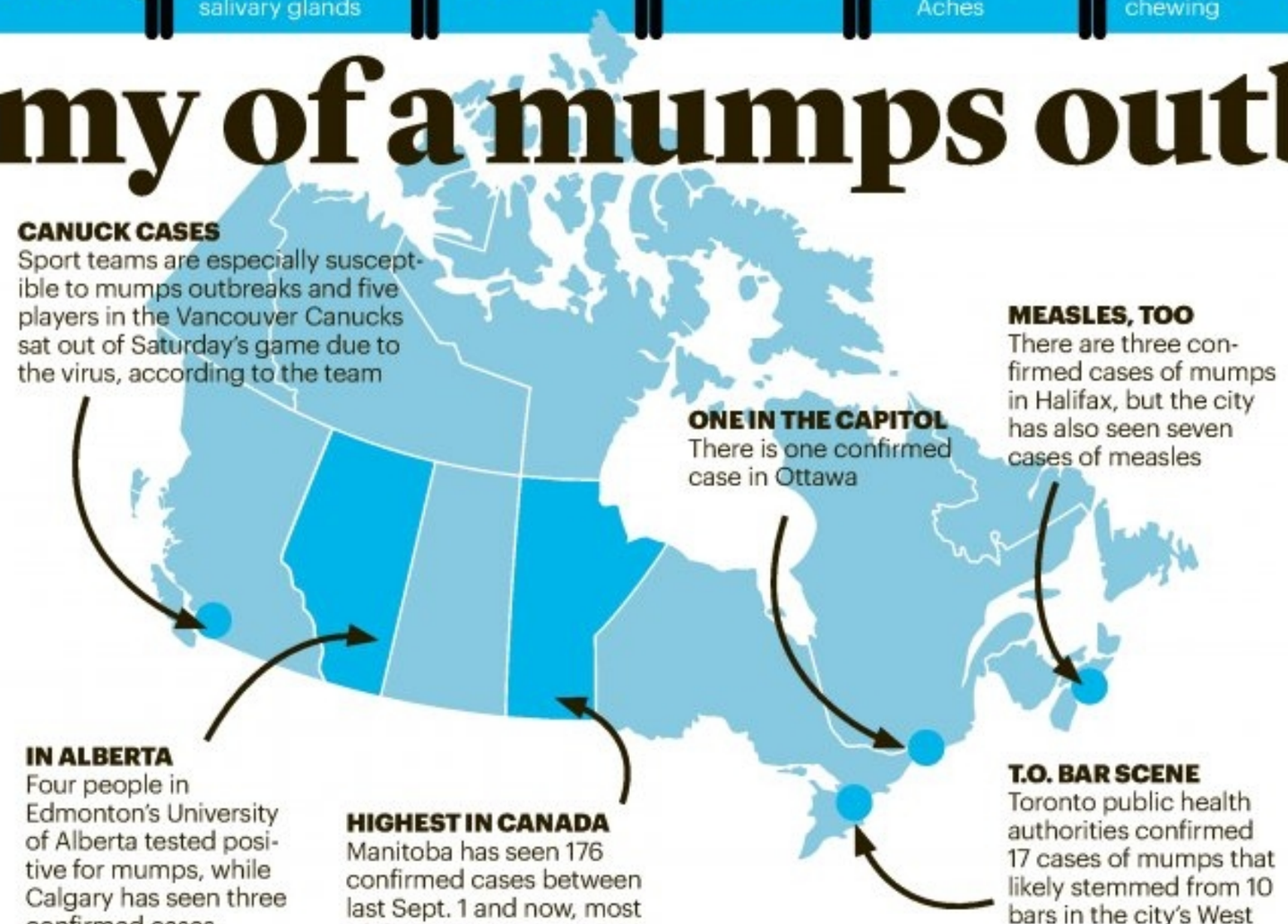
Social horror hit Get Out retains its 100% Rotten Tomatoes rating as it tops the box office

MUMPS SYMPTOMS to look out for Most people recover within seven to 10 days: Health Canada

Anatomy of a mumps outbreak

An immunization expert explains why there are still mumps outbreaks despite Canada's national vaccine program

WANYEE LI/METRO VANCOUVER



CANUCK CASES
Sport teams are especially susceptible to mumps outbreaks and five players in the Vancouver Canucks sat out of Saturday's game due to the virus, according to the team

IN ALBERTA
Four people in Edmonton's University of Alberta tested positive for mumps, while Calgary has seen three confirmed cases

HIGHEST IN CANADA
Manitoba has seen 176 confirmed cases between last Sept. 1 and now, most of them at Winnipeg universities

ONE IN THE CAPITOL
There is one confirmed case in Ottawa

MEASLES, TOO
There are three confirmed cases of mumps in Halifax, but the city has also seen seven cases of measles

T.O. BAR SCENE
Toronto public health authorities confirmed 17 cases of mumps that likely stemmed from 10 bars in the city's West End last week

HOW THE VIRUS SPREADS

Mumps is a highly contagious disease spread by saliva or mucus.

- Usually mumps is spread directly from person to person. When someone with mumps shouts at a bar, people around that person are likely to get infected by the flying spit if they haven't been vaccinated
- Kissing is a big culprit for the spread of mumps
- People can also spread mumps by sharing utensils and drinking glasses
- But the MMR vaccine is available free nationwide

A recent spate of mumps outbreaks in Canada has health experts reminding people about the importance of vaccines.

Mumps is a virus that causes the easily recognizable swelling of salivary glands. Most people recover within seven to 10 days but in rare cases people can develop complications, including deafness and meningitis, according to Health Canada.

Parents in Canada are advised to have their children receive two doses of the MMR vaccine – it protects people against the measles, mumps, and rubella.

Health authorities say it is normal to see a handful of mumps cases in provinces every year but outbreaks still occur because the disease is highly contagious and because Canada has not achieved herd immunity.

Unlike the measles, where an outbreak only occurs when a traveller brings it into the country, the mumps virus still exists in Canada, said Dr. Monika Naus, the director of immunization and vaccine preventable disease at the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.

A 2007 Health Canada pilot program found about 83 to 87 per cent of two-year-olds in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba were up to date with their mumps vaccines.

Everyone in the country would have to get two doses of the mumps vaccine in order to achieve herd immunity, where the general population is protected against mumps. Without herd immunity, outbreaks can still occur, she said.

We asked Dr. Naus important questions about the mumps vaccine:

How can I check to see whether I have been vaccinated?
The best way is to check your immunization record. If people remember where they got their vaccinations, that health provider should provide a record.

How many vaccine doses did I get?
A second dose of mumps vaccine in 1996 was introduced at 16 months of age. For individuals from about 23 to 47 years of age, most of them will only have had a single dose of mumps vaccine.

What if I'm an immigrant who did not grow up in Canada?
If you immigrated from outside of Western Europe and North America, then there is an excellent chance that you weren't vaccinated against mumps. Mumps vaccines are not used in most of the developing world. For individuals like that, we recommend getting a mumps vaccine.

How effective is the mumps vaccine?
After one dose, about 80 per cent of people will be immune. After two doses, just over 90 per cent of people will have immunity. Everyone would have to get two doses in order to achieve herd immunity.

Is it possible to check whether I am immune to mumps?
For many vaccinations, an antibody level can be checked and if it is above a certain level, we can determine immunity. For mumps, we don't have that kind of certainty. So there's no point checking the antibody after the vaccine.

Does it hurt to get another mumps vaccine if I'm not sure whether I need a booster shot or not?
No it doesn't. If you're already immune, it won't do anything. It might boost your immunity.

This interview has been edited and condensed for brevity.

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Is it too late now to say I hate your taste in music?

For some single people, musical taste matters big time. Nickelback, Justin Bieber and Lady Gaga topped a poll of musical turnoffs conducted by Tastebuds.fm in 2011. GETTY IMAGES

RELATIONSHIPS

Being in sync on preferred playlists is not the key to love

On Katie Nestor's first date with Gareth Williams, she gushed about the bands she'd see perform at the WayHome music festival just north of Toronto that weekend. Williams stared at her blankly.

"I was like, 'Who is this guy who doesn't know WayHome?'" Nestor laughed, recalling how a few dates later, she learned for the first time that Williams had no songs on his phone and was indifferent to music. "I was like, 'Oh god, this guy is a loser'."

Yet, a year and a half later, they're still going strong.

Dating apps have started capitalizing on musical connections. Last year, Tinder partnered with Spotify to allow users to post their favourite artists and their own "anthem" on profiles, and dating app Happn allows users to post songs on profiles and send music to other users. Tastebuds.fm and Mix'd are apps specifically for music lovers looking to connect with fellow music lovers.

But does being in sync in musical taste translate to being in tune as a couple?

Relationship and musicology experts say that while liking the same music can create an initial spark between daters, it's not necessary for maintaining a happy relationship. The deal-breakers are when one person can't accept the other's different taste, or when they try to force their musical taste on another person — both cases usually signs of bigger problems, they say.

"Quite often at the beginning of relationships, couples are often looking for things they might have in common," said Kip Pegley, associate professor of musicology at Queen's University. "If you share certain similarities in music ... that can also speak to a shared history. 'Oh, you were at that concert? I love them too'."

For some singles, musical taste matters big time. Nickelback, Justin Bieber and Lady Gaga topped a poll of musical turnoffs conducted by Tastebuds.fm in 2011.

Pegley compares reading someone by their music collection to reading them by their book collection; it can give insight into what their other interests are.

But there's still hope for couples like Nestor and Williams, who have a love connection but no musical one, relationship experts say.

"It's perfectly OK to be on different pages about music," said Natasha Sharma, a Toronto-based therapist and author of The Kindness Journal.

Sharma said music can be lumped in as a "surface" interest with things such as taste in movies and food. It's more important to agree on big-picture stuff such as goals, values and outlooks on life, she said.

It's only when one person disparages the other's taste or when one tries to force music on the other that Sharma sees red flags.

"Any time you push anything on a partner, it's not good — whether it's music or marriage," she said. "The problem is, the person who is forcing it down their partner's proverbial throat isn't respecting them."

But if one person doesn't initially like the other's music, they shouldn't give up trying, she said. Showing an interest in your partner's interests — be they music or sci-fi movies — lets them know you care. Completely shutting down someone's music can be particularly hurtful since it's so personal, she said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CONNECTION

When it comes to liking the same music, there are scientific reasons why it may help you bond: "We know from some brain studies that music can bring up autobiographical memories ... memories for events that have happened to you," said Laurel Trainor, a professor of cognitive neuroscience and director of McMaster University's Institute for Music and the Mind. "For example, the first date you went on, you might remember the music that the band played."
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The songs are catchy. Plus, when you sing, you butcher it and it makes me laugh.
Gareth Williams eventually found common ground with music-loving girlfriend Katie Nestor — it's the Frozen soundtrack

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ANATOMY OF DISASTER

How Oscars were enveloped by chaos

The question on everyone's lips in the immediate aftermath of the stunning final twist to Sunday's Oscars was simply 'how?'

Here's a look at the processes and how the Academy Awards' winners envelopes are handled before being opened live onstage:

- The consulting firm PwC, formerly Price Waterhouse Coopers, tabulates the winners based on ballots cast by the academy's 6,687 voting members. Unlike the nominations, which rely on a branch-specific, preferential-voting system, winners are chosen by popular vote.

- Two accountants are tasked with bringing the final results, inside sealed envelopes, to the Oscars ceremony. They are the people carrying briefcases on the red carpet, flanked by police protection. Each briefcase contains an identical set of envelopes for the show's 24 categories. The accountants also memorize the winners.

- The two accountants are ostensibly the only people who know the winners before they are announced live on TV.

- During the telecast, the two briefcase-toting accountants are stationed in the Dolby Theatre wings, one stage left and one stage right.

- Most presenters enter stage right. They come backstage a few minutes ahead of time, and the accountant hands them their category's envelope just before they walk onstage. The sealed envelope with the winner's name inside is opened live onstage.

- On Sunday, Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway entered stage right, where PwC representative Brian Cullinan handed them the errant envelope.

- The previous award, best actress, was presented by Leonardo DiCaprio, who entered stage left. PwC representative Martha Ruiz handed him the envelope for the correct category.

- A duplicate, unopened envelope for best actress remained stage right, and apparently ended up in the hands of Beatty and Dunaway before they took to the stage.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A curious tale of two envelopes: Emma Stone holds one best actress card (above) but Warren Beatty was handed another (below). GETTY IMAGES

Writer/director Barry Jenkins, producer Adele Romanski, producer Jeremy Kleiner and cast members accept the best picture Oscar for Moonlight. GETTY IMAGES

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Why this transfer was transcendent

THE SHOW: The Academy Awards (CTV/ABC)
THE MOMENT: The epic fail at the final moment

Best picture presenter Warren Beatty opens the envelope. He reads the card. He squints. He looks in the envelope for another card.

He looks at his co-presenter, Faye Dunaway. He says, "And the Academy Award," and stops, looking off stage. "You're awful," Dunaway says. He holds the card out to her. She only glances at it. "La La Land," she says.

The music plays, the La La team hugs. Producer Jordan Horowitz makes his speech. As fellow producer Marc Platt makes his, people in headsets dart around in the background. Faces fall.

Horowitz charges the mic. "I'm sorry, no, there's a mistake," he says. "Moonlight, you guys won best picture." Gasps from the audience. "This is not a joke." He holds up the card. "Moonlight. Best picture."

Hubbub. "Warren," host Jimmy Kimmel wails, "what did you do?"

We know what Beatty should have done: "I'm sorry, I seem to have the wrong envelope." Instead, he gave us a metaphor so literal, if it was a movie you'd throw popcorn at the screen.

The walking embodiment of old Hollywood and white privilege, frozen in bewilderment, allows a cadre of white males to think they've won for a lighthearted confection about cute white dreamers in LA.

And then we all watch as they physically transfer the statuette to a female producer and a black director for their intimate movie about a black gay man.

"I'm going to be really proud to hand this to my friends from Moonlight," Horowitz said gracefully.

WOES KEEP COMING

RIP?

Australian producer Jan Chapman insisted she is very much alive after her face was displayed during the In Memoriam segment, intended to honour her friend Janet Patterson.

32.9M

The 32.9 million viewers tuning into Sunday's awards was the second-lowest rating of all time.

Speaking for humankind? We can only dream.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

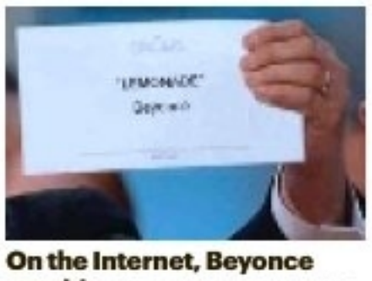
HUMOUR

The award for best meme goes to...

The best picture Oscar blunder prompted snickering from Ryan Gosling and a cascade of politically tinged jokes on Twitter, with some even declaring Hillary Clinton the winner.

Billy Crystal tweeted: "Amazing ending. Wish that had happened on Election Day." Seth MacFarlane chimed in: "You know what the problem is — millions of Academy members voted illegally."

The sarcasm started after La La Land was wrongly announced as the best picture winner. The actual winner was Moonlight, drawing a giggle from Gosling, who was on stage with the La La Land cast when the real winner was announced.



On the Internet, Beyonce won big. TWITTER/@THISJENLEWIS

Memes using the Oscar winner envelope held up by La La Land producer Jordan Horowitz were edited to instead show titles of films that have garnered little attention from the Academy, including Ernest Goes to Camp and Space Jam.

One of the most popular took a dig at another hotly contested award — when Adele saw off Beyonce's Lemonade for record of the year at the Grammys.

Other memes showed the popular vote totals for the recent U.S. presidential election, with Clinton tallying more ballots than President Donald Trump. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro SPORT

Free agent guard Deron Williams has signed with the Cavaliers, giving the NBA champions another playmaker to help defend their title

NHL IN BRIEF

Forsberg named No. 1 star
Nashville Predators left-winger Filip Forsberg, Chicago Blackhawks centre Jonathan Toews and Calgary Flames left-winger Johnny Gaudreau are the NHL's three stars of the week.

Forsberg led all skaters with eight goals and 10 points, including back-to-back hat tricks, as the Predators gained seven of a possible eight points in the standings. Toews (four goals, five assists) recorded multi-point efforts in three Blackhawks wins and Gaudreau recorded eight points (two goals, six assists) in four road victories. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wild's Parise, Pominville contract mumps
Minnesota Wild forwards Zach Parise and Jason Pominville have been diagnosed with mumps and must miss at least three games.

The veteran wings have been placed in isolation for a five-day period.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kucherov powers Bolts' offence in rout of Sens
Nikita Kucherov scored three power-play goals in the second period and the Tampa Bay Lightning kept their fading playoff hopes alive with a 5-1 victory over the Ottawa Senators on Monday night.

Kucherov had the second hat trick of his career and added an assist in the third period. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Burrows signs off on move to Ottawa

NHL

Canucks land prospect forward in swap for vet

With the Vancouver Canucks fading fast from playoff contention, Alexandre Burrows insisted he would only agree to waive his no-trade clause for the right fit.

He found a suitor in the Ottawa Senators.

Primed for a post-season push, Ottawa acquired the veteran winger from Vancouver on Monday for prospect Jonathan Dahlen in a deal that brings a skilled pest with plenty of playoff experience to the nation's capital.

"We had to do something like this," Senators general manager Pierre Dorion said prior to his team's 5-1 loss to the Lightning in Tampa, Fla. "We just felt it was time to add another piece, and in Alex Burrows, I can tell you, we're ecstatic to have added that piece."

Burrows, who turns 36 in April, played 822 regular-season games with the Canucks, posting 193 goals, 191 assists and 1,066 penalty minutes.

"I wanted to go to a team that was a good fit for me hockey-wise, but at the same time family-wise," said Burrows, who has three young children.

Alex Burrows brings 70 games of NHL playoff experience to the Senators. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"There wasn't really a perfect situation, but I think Ottawa was pretty close to perfect for me."

The undrafted free agent who fought his way from the third-tier ECHL to eventually star on Vancouver's top line has 19 goals and 15 assists in 70 playoff games.

> **We had to do something like this.**
> Sens GM Pierre Dorion

"It's been a hard day," said Canucks general manager Jim Benning. "Alex Burrows has been the heart and soul of our franchise for a long time. He's given us everything that he's had."

Set to become an unrestricted free agent this summer, there are reports the native of Pincourt, Que., could sign a two-year extension with the Senators as early as Tuesday.

Burrows had four straight seasons of at least 25 goals from 2008-09 to 2011-12 playing largely with Henrik and Daniel Sedin. His best year came in 2009-10 when he scored 35 goals and added 32 assists.

"They are a big part of my career, I'm going to miss them," said Burrows. "I wish them the best of luck, but now I've got to move on and start focusing on my next challenge and that's to help the Senators with a Stanley Cup."

The Canucks, meanwhile, were pleased to get the 19-year-old Dahlen, who was selected 42nd overall by Ottawa at the 2016 NHL draft.

The forward has impressed at the international level, registering six points in seven games for Sweden at the 2017 world juniors and leading his country in scoring with five points in five games at the 2016 Ivan Hlinka under-17 tournament.

"He's a player we've had our eye on," said Benning, who could also move forward Jannik Hansen and goalie Ryan Miller before Wednesday's NHL trade deadline at 3 p.m. ET. "He's a goal-scorer, he's good around the net, he's sure-handed, he's got a good nose for the net and he'll pay the price to get there."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

MONDAY MOVES

OTTAWA-VANCOUVER
TO SENATORS: ALEX BURROWS
TO CANUCKS: JONATHAN DAHLEN

ST. LOUIS-WASHINGTON
TO CAPITALS: KEVIN SHATTENKIRK, PHEONIX COPLEY
TO BLUES: ZACH SANFORD, BRAD MALONE, 1ST ROUNDER(2017), CONDITIONAL PICK

TORONTO-TAMPA BAY
TO LEAFS: BRIAN BOYLE
TO LIGHTNING: BYRON FROESE, CONDITIONAL 2ND-ROUNDER (2017)

MONTREAL-DALLAS
TO CANADIENS: JORDIE BENN
TO STARS: GREG PATERYN, 4TH-ROUNDER (2017)

ARIZONA-MINNESOTA
TO ARIZONA: TEEMU PULKKINEN
TO WILD: FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

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MLS

Whitecaps re-sign veteran Rosales

The Vancouver Whitecaps are bringing back Mauro Rosales.

The club announced Tuesday that it has signed the Argentine midfielder to a Major League Soccer contract for 2017, with a club option for 2018.

The 36-year-old Rosales returns to Vancouver following one season with FC Dallas, where he helped the Texan side win their first US Open Cup and MLS Supporters' Shield awarded to the team with the best regular-season record.

The five-foot-eight, 165-pound midfielder originally joined Whitecaps FC in August 2014 and made 36 appearances, scored one goal, and added six assists in all competitions during his season and half with the club.

Prior to his first stint in Vancouver, Rosales previously played with Chivas USA, Seattle Sounders, Dutch side Ajax, as well as Argentine clubs Newell's Old Boys and River Plate.

He was named MLS Newcomer of the Year in 2011 with Seattle. Whitecaps head coach Carl Robinson has credited Rosales with being an instrumental part in helping the club land star striker Fredy Montero on loan from Tianjin Teda of the Chinese Super League.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Argentine Mauro Rosales THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

SOCCER IN BRIEF

Ibrahimovic keeps United guessing about his future

Ever the showman, Zlatan Ibrahimovic seems to be reveling in maintaining the suspense. Why accept a one-year contract extension from Manchester United now when you can sustain the ambiguity and add to the mystique?

"Let's see what happens," Ibrahimovic said after his two goals helped United win the League Cup Sunday. "I will stop on top. If I don't perform, I won't play," the Swede added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Post-Ranieri Foxes bite back

Leicester began life without manager Claudio Ranieri by easing its Premier League relegation fears after a stirring 3-1 home victory over Liverpool on Monday.

In its first game since Ranieri was sacked last Thursday Jamie Vardy scored twice for last season's struggling champion. Danny Drinkwater also netted with a superb long-range strike. It helped propel Leicester out of the relegation places and up to 15th.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lowry positive about playoffs despite injury

NBA

All-star guard to undergo surgery on ailing wrist

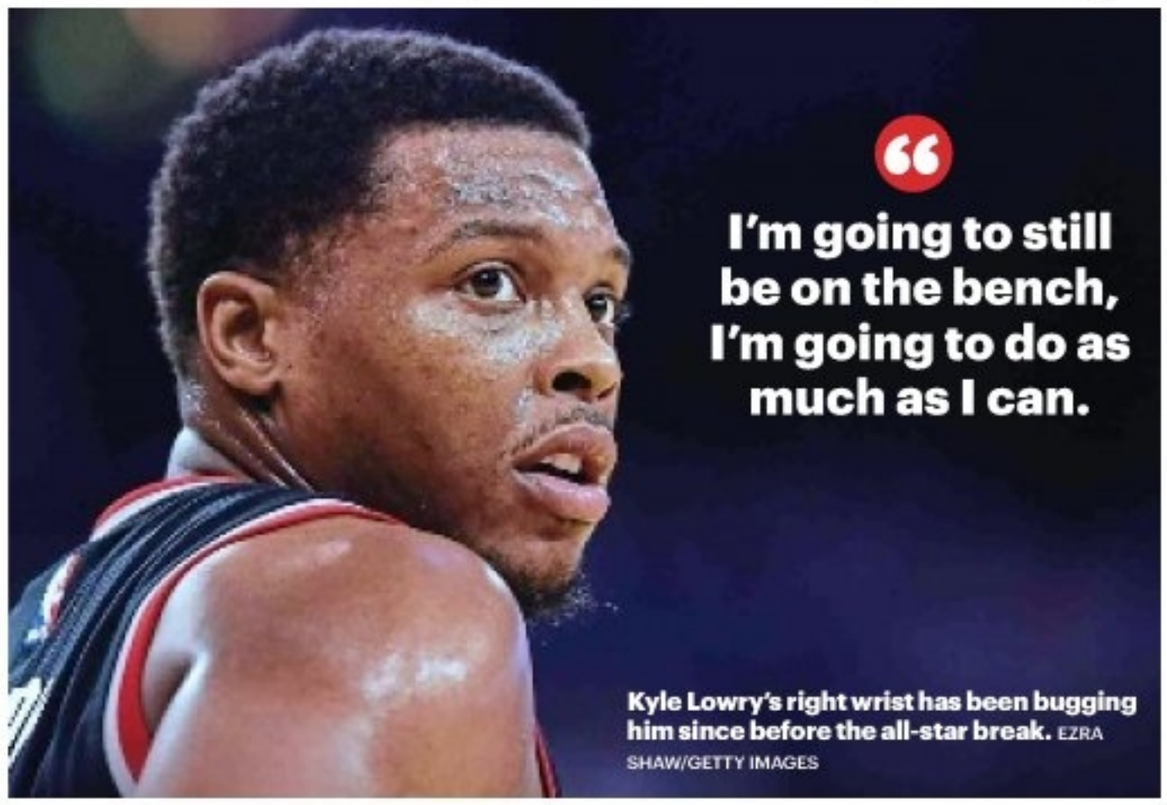
Kyle Lowry thought he'd play through some discomfort because that's what he usually does. This time was different, however; this time things weren't getting much better.

One day would be good, one day would be not so good and now he's destined to go under a surgeon's knife to clean out some little particles floating around his right wrist.

The news came as a bit of a surprise, especially after the Raptors had suggested Sunday that he was on the path to coming back but that's the vagary of the injury: some days are better than others.

"I thought some local treatment would help it, it just wasn't getting any better," Lowry said of the wrist that's been bugging him since before the NBA all-star break. "We got some stuff done in Toronto and now we all came to New York and got a second opinion.

The extent was far worse than some imagine. A visit to the same New York doctor who reset a broken left wrist 11 years ago yielded enough information that Lowry decided to have an operation Tuesday morning.



Kyle Lowry's right wrist has been bugging him since before the all-star break. EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

When Lowry is able to return is impossible to know and anyone suggesting Monday they could pick a date is guessing.

It will depend on what the doctors find during the surgery, how quickly he is able to begin serious rehabilitation and, eventually, getting back to game speed.

The Raptors have 23 games left in the regular season that ends April 12 with the playoffs beginning three or four days later. "It's a timetable but we still have to do the rehab, do the process, we have to get the surgery done and then we'll go from there," he said before the Raptors faced the New York Knicks on Monday.

22.8

Lowry's scoring average this season, to go along with 6.9 assists per game.

"For me, it's a process of taking it day by day. (Tuesday) is Day 1 and then working extremely hard to get my body, my mind, my wrist back to 100 per cent so I can help my teammates out."

Coach Dwane Casey is, of course, hoping for the best while confident in the point guard duo of Cory Joseph and Delon Wright.

"He decided to have it done now to hopefully have some time before the playoffs to get some games in," Casey said. "He's going to be back when he comes back but we hope that he heals and gets back with us for a few games before the playoffs."

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Spicy Fish Tacos with Glazed Sweet Potato

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Taco Tuesday just got an upgrade.

Ready in 40 minutes
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 4 – 6 Mahi-Mahi or Halibut fillets
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp ground chili powder
- 1/2 tsp ground oregano
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 small sweet potato, diced into 1/2 inch cubes
- 2 tsp maple syrup
- salt
- 1 tsp butter

Fixings:
- corn or whole wheat tortillas
- cole slaw
- 1 container of fresh salsa
- chopped fresh cilantro
- sour cream
- guacomole

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425F and grease a large baking sheet. Combine the cumin, chili powder, oregano, garlic powder, cinnamon and salt in a small bowl and mix with a fork to combine. Sprinkle over fish and rub spice mix evenly across the fillets.

2. Place on prepared sheet and bake in the oven for 12 to 15 minutes, or until fish flakes with a fork.

3. Place mahi-mahi on a platter and pull fillets apart with a fork. Meanwhile, toss the sweet potato with the maple syrup and sprinkle with salt.

4. In a skillet over medium-low heat, add the butter and then sauté the sweet potato for about 10 minutes, or until potato is tender.

5. Remove the sweet potato from the skillet, place it in a bowl, and set aside.

Serve fish and sweet potato alongside other fixings.

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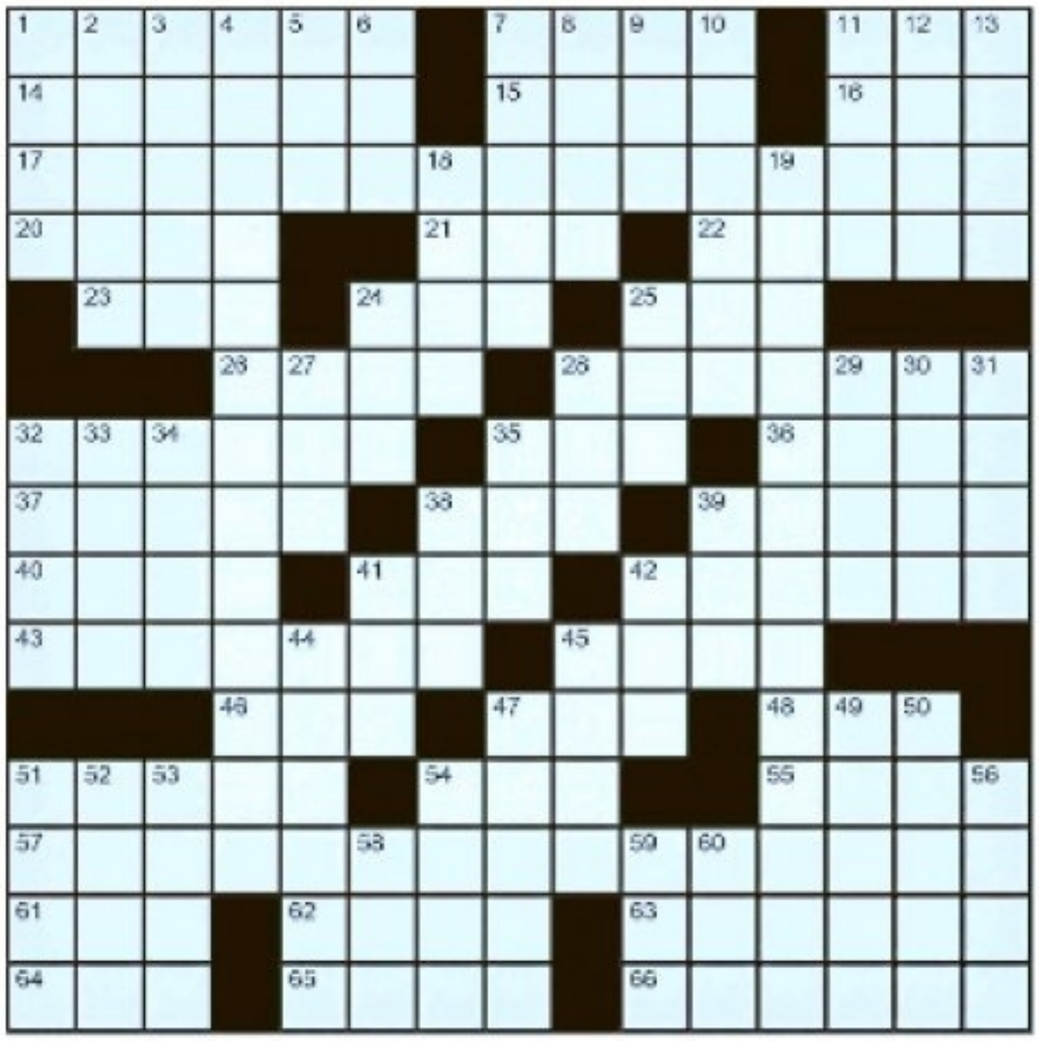
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. _ Tuesday (Day before Lent starts)
7. Parrot
11. Fergie's bandmate, _de.ap
14. Garlic sauces
15. Tart
16. Mauna _ (Hawaiian volcano)
17. Dairy or wheat, to some eaters: 2 wds.
20. Desire Under the _ (Eugene O'Neill play)
21. Clod
22. Lollobrigida and Gershon
23. Summer hrs. in Toronto
24. Jimmy
25. Photo
26. Hat part
28. Fireplace features
32. Invite on a date: 2 wds.
35. Canadian comedian Mr. James
36. Miss
37. Gregorian _
38. Capture
39. _ donna
40. Singer Ms. Kelly
41. Keep the grass short
42. Keys-on-a-loop character in a Western
43. My world of me!
45. Isinglass
46. Slot machine feature
47. Showbiz job
48. Money exec in a co.
51. _ Bay, Nova Scotia
54. _ clear
55. Splinter
57. Bass, as per singing: 3 wds.
61. US tooth doc's org.
62. Sporting slingbacks or sandals
63. Decline, as an offer: 2 wds.
64. TV actress Susan Hanks and Shelley Long
25. Frying need
27. Groove
28. Mafia
29. "_ and the Detectives" (1964)
30. 'L' of household cleaning brand CLR
31. Hollywood Walk of Fame symbol
32. Pretends
33. Velcro 'venue'
34. Mr. Malden
35. Sore
38. 'Name' in Montreal
39. Ocean, e.g.
41. Particular parent
42. Zippy dance
44. Fancily attired
45. Grinding factory
47. Open space in a wooded area
49. Single-named singer
50. Timely way to deliver lines: 2 wds.
51. Delighted
52. Mineral deposit
53. "Fly _ Home" (1996)
54. "Star Trek" episode, '_ Time'
56. Johnny of movies
58. Howe'er
59. Prefix to 'centre'
60. Delivery vehicle
65. Pilot's steerer
66. Synchronized on the dance floor: 2 wds.

DOWN
1. Secure
2. "_, _ friend!" (Greetings my long-time pal!)
3. Boards
4. Historic French Canadian area of Winnipeg: 3 wds.
5. '_' _ for Verdun
6. Opposite of WNW
7. Composition
8. Salon creation
9. "Gilligan's Island" shelter
10. Beginning
11. Comparable
12. Ms. Wilson of "La Femme Nikita"
13. _ into (Criticizes/attacks)
18. Benchmark
19. Canada's highest military honour: 2 wds.
24. "The Money _" (1986) starring Tom

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a lovely day because the Moon and Venus both are in Aries. Lucky you! You feel friendly toward everyone, which is why it will be easy to get along with others.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will welcome every chance to enjoy solitude in beautiful surroundings today. You have an above-average need for privacy and some peace and quiet.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a lovely day to schmooze with friends and members of groups because you feel very warm toward others. Enjoy hanging out with people who are creative and artistic.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You look good in the eyes of bosses, parents and VIPs today. In fact, you look so good that some of you will strike up a flirtation with someone in a position of power.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Grab every opportunity to travel for pleasure today or do something different. Because your appreciation of beauty is heightened, visit museums, art galleries, beautiful buildings and parks.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You can benefit from the wealth and resources of others today, which is why it's a good day if you need to borrow something.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Although you have to cooperate with others today, they will be receptive and cooperative with you. You will achieve a nice balance of give-and-take with close friends and partners.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Co-workers will be supportive today. In fact, you might get praise or even a raise. Who knows? (Fingers crossed.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a romantic day for you. Enjoy social outings, sports events, the arts and playful activities with children. Accept all invitations to party.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You might be enthused about redecorating your home today. Likewise, you will enjoy buying something beautiful for where you live. Family relations will be friendly.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a strong day for those who write, teach, act, sell or market, because your words are like gold today. All your communications with others will benefit you.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Look for ways to boost your income today, because they exist. If shopping, you will buy something beautiful for yourself or a loved one.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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2								4
5							8	9
		4						
3					5		4	
	1		8	4	7			3

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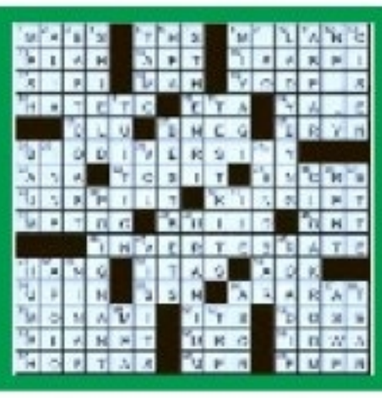
YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



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2	8	1	9	7	3	4	6	5
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7	9	3	8	2	6	5	4	1
5	4	2	3	1	9	6	8	7

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